बोधगया (बिहार) में अंतरराष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन का निर्माण

1407. **श्री गया सिंह:** क्या नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) बोधगया में अंतरराष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन का निर्माण कब तक कर लिया जाएगा; और

(ख) बोधगया जाने के लिए बौद्ध यात्रियों को चार्टर्ड विमान से यात्रा करने की अनुमति प्रदान करने के संबंध में सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है और यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री अनंत कुमार): (क) और (ख) भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण की बोधगया में एक अंतरराष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन के निर्माण की कोई तात्कालिक योजना नहीं है। संबंधित विमानपत्तन पर सीमा-शुल्क और आव्रजन सुविधाओं की उपलब्धता के आधार, बोधगया तीर्थ-स्थान के लिए चार्टर उड़ानें प्रचालित की जा सकती हैं।

Equipments at airports to handle flights in poor visibility

1408. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our airports are not equipped to cater for the airlines operations in poor visibility caused by fog; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. 31 airports where jet aircraft operate are equipped with Instrument Landing System (ILS) Category I enabling aircraft operations in low visibility conditions. The main runway at IGI airport has been equipped with ILS CAT II. Aircraft using CAT II ILS can operate upto 350 mtr. of Runway Visual Range (RVR). Considering the unprecendented fog conditions in Delhi and cities of Northern Region it has been decided to instal CAT III ILS at the main runway of Delhi Airport and CAT II ILS at Lucknow, Jammu and Amritsar airports.

Improvement of landing system at Airports

1409. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many flights were either abnormally delayed or cancelled due to heavy fog in the recent months;

(b) if so, the reasons for not learning lessons from previous years and not improving the landing system which could be effective in all types of weather; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 31 airports of AAI are equipped with Instrument Landing System (ILS), Category I. Delhi airport has ILS Cop II for the main runway. These equipments are installed and maintained to facilitate aircraft operations in low visibility conditions and improve regularity of operations.

(c) Considering the unprecedented fog conditions in Delhi and cities of Northern Region it has been decided to instal CAT III ILS at the main runway of Delhi Airport and CAT II ILS at Lucknow, Jammu and Amritsar airports.

Change of north-eastern Zonal Centre of airway from Calcutta to Guwahati

1410. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any study about increase of number of flight from Imphal-Delhi via Guwahati reducing the number of flight from Imphal to Calcutta; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government have any policy of change of Zonal Centre of airways of the North-Eastern States at Guwahati in place of the present Zonal Centre at Calcutta; and

(c) if so, by when the Zonal Centre will be changed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) A Task Force has been constituted to examine and make recommendations for improving airport infrastructure and for better air links in the North-Eastern Region.

(b) and (c) There is no such proposal under consideration.

Appointment of pilots in Air India

1411. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that appointments of nearly 35 pilots have been made in Air India overlooking the merits of better candidates; and

(b) whether it is a fact that these appointed pilots are direct relations of top Air India officials?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir. The procedure for selection of Trainee pilots consists of written test followed by personal interview and at no stage of selection procedure, merit was overlooked. The details of Co-pilots/Trainee Pilots appointed during last three years are as under:—

Year	No. of Co-Pilots recruited	No. of Trainee Pilots recruited
1996	13	13
1997	3	36
1998	1	22
TOTAL	17	71

(b) Out of the above recruited pilots following number of trainee pilots are related to Air India officials:—

1996	—	2
1997	—	8
1998	—	1

Corporatisation of airports

1412. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question No. 2 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd February, 1999 and state the benefit to the travelling public by corporatising five airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): Corporatisation will bring about effective changes in the management and contribute to the overall increase in the productivity and will be able to attract investments needed to improve the standards of service/ facilities, to be travelling public.

Proposed private investment in Pawan Hans Ltd.

1413. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision to off-load its 78% equity in Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. to a strategic investor as per recommendation of the Disinvestment Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.